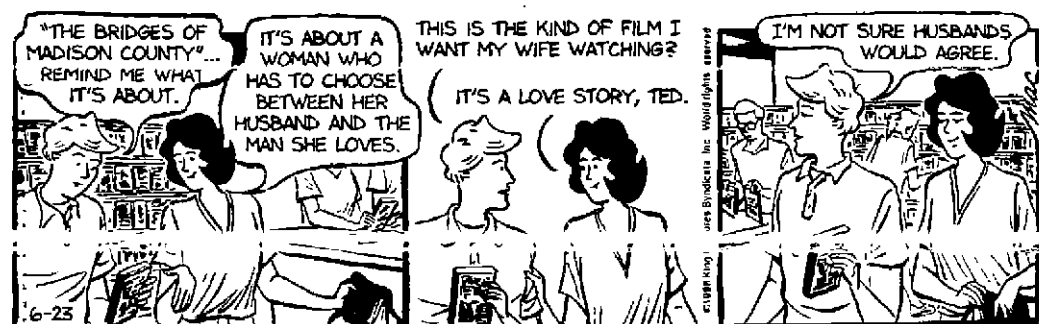


BLONDIE



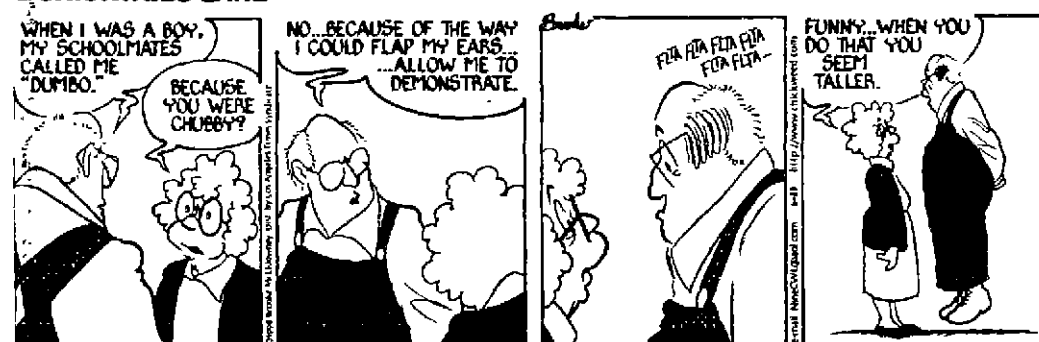
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



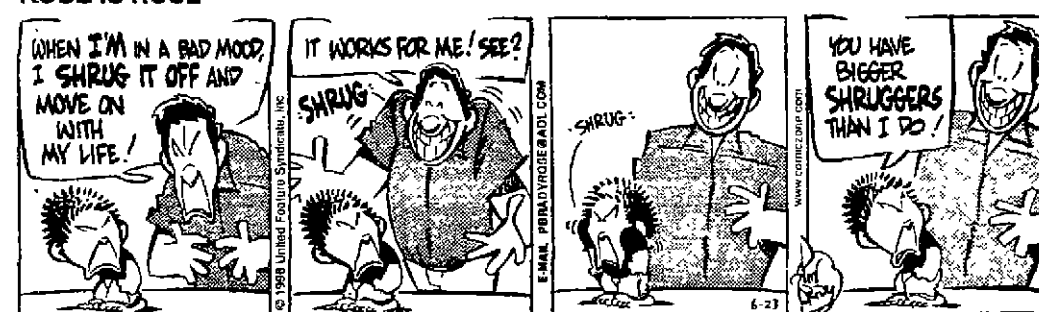
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



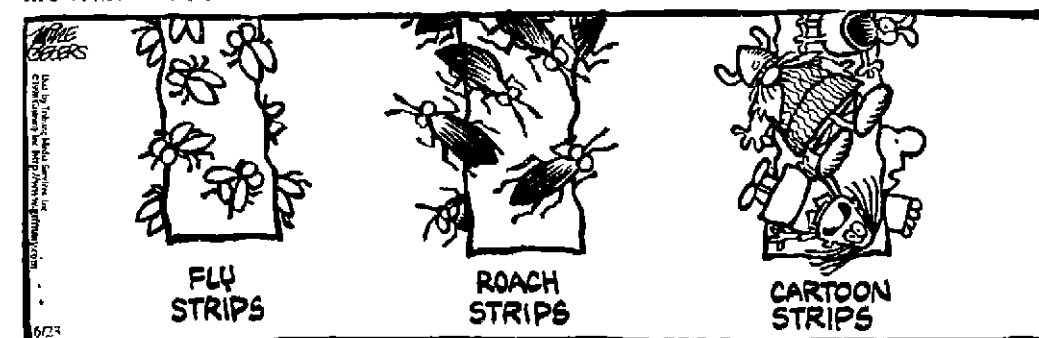
ROSE IS ROSE



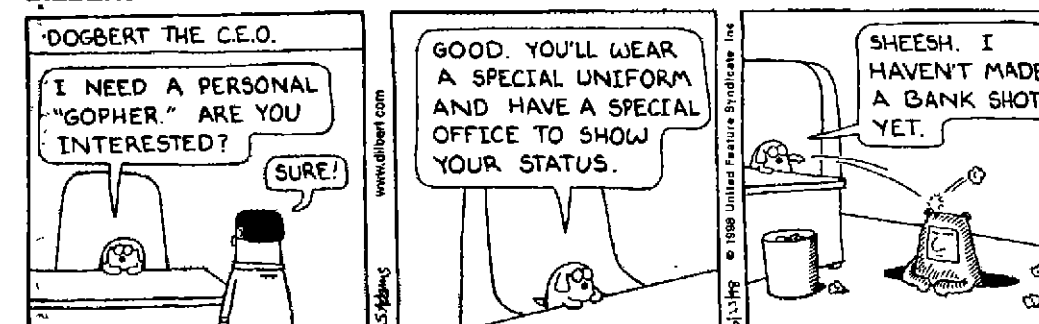
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



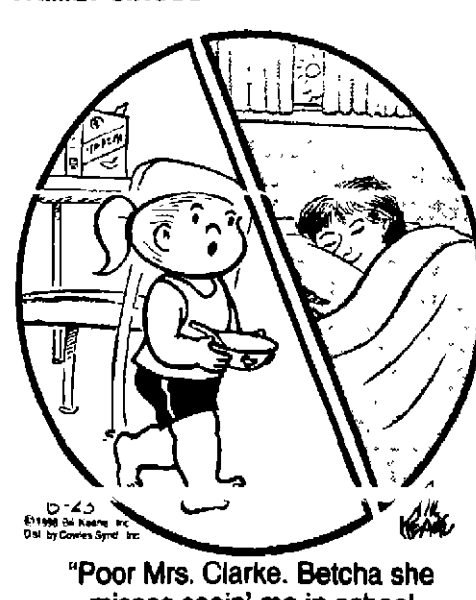
DILBERT



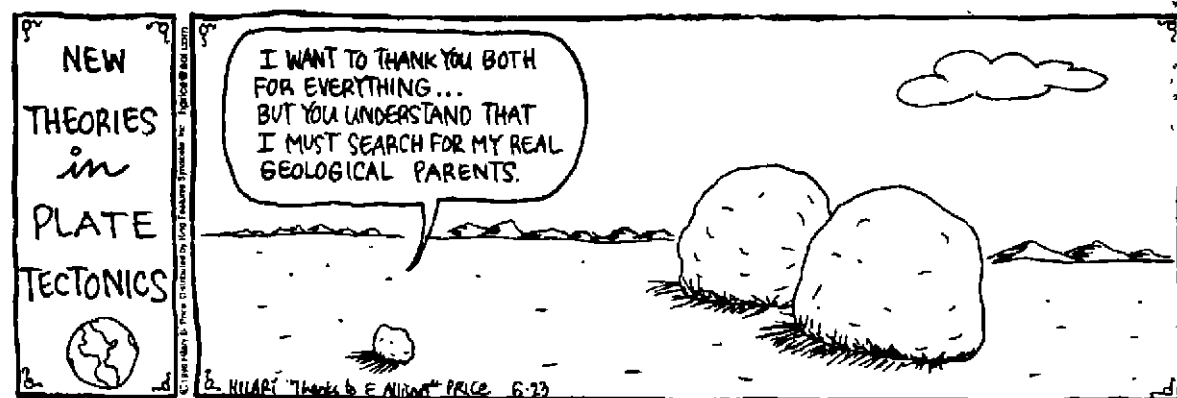
DENNIS THE MENACE



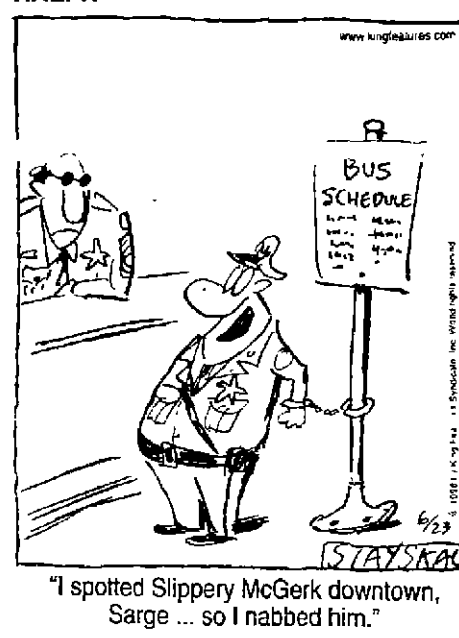
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH

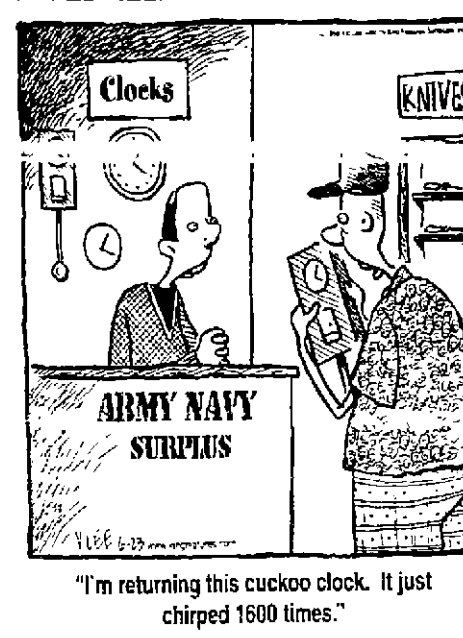


Today's Birthdays

Singer June Carter Cash is 69. Singer Diana Trask is 58.

James Levine is 55. Rhythm-and-blues singer Rosetta Hightower (The Orlans) is 54. Actor Ted Shackelford is 52. Actor Bryan Brown is 51. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas is 50. Actress Frances McDormand is 41. Actress Karin Gustafson ("Taps") is 39. Actor Paul La Greca is 36. Singer Chico DeBarge is 28.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 150-160 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, June 24, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Business prospects continue to look promising. Set aside some time to address family concerns.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Now is the time to clear up concerns with some deep discussion. You've been afraid to approach someone but you find that he or she is relieved to hear your thoughts.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You generate many brilliant ideas, make sure you follow through on at least one of them.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Don't be so proud; everyone needs to ask for help now and then.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Spend some quality time with friends, lest they forget who you are. Work demands might be calling, but you need a mini-vacation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) It might be tough, but try to keep your mind on the tasks at hand. Make those important phone calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A conversation with a stranger changes your outlook. Those who are attached will be swept off their feet by their partners all over again.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) While others might be clamoring for your attention, you should put No. 1 atop your agenda.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your cheery demeanor goes a long way toward perking up a depressed pal. Your social life is perking along.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You're attracting some flighty people lately. Surround yourself with down-to-earth pals whose opinions you trust.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Have you been neglecting your family lately? If so, now's the time to remedy that; how much you care.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) It's time to stop everything and give yourself a reality check. If you don't, it's likely someone else will do it for you.

WORD SLEUTH

Words found in "Abraham Lincoln"

MYUQN J F I C Y V R O L H

E B X U R M C O L I E N B Y V

S Q N K H O H C A M I E B Y W

T R N O N R A C I A L L O L J

G E B Y W A R U R R P A N K I

G D B Z X L M B M A L M C V S

Q O M K N L O R I G N R O C A

E C A Y W O N U I S O O P N L

J H F E C C I A Y A X N M V U

S O P N M K C L J H H F E C B

Z Y X V U T R N I B A C Q P O

Monday's unlisted clue: MARBLES

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: BORN IN A LOG -

Acorn	Charm	Lamb	Moral
Brain	Collar	Lion	Nonracial
Calm	Harmonic	Macho	Normal
Chairman	Icon	Monarch	

© 1998 King Features, Inc.

For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"Lucky for us I decided to pass your second double," offered a relieved East. "I just hoped you had enough to beat them." "We were lucky," agreed West. "but your decision was a poor one. You should have bid four clubs." West got off to his best defense, leading ace and another trump. For flexibility, South overlooked dummy's queen with his king. South then led a heart toward dummy's king, but West grabbed his ace and switched to diamonds. South refused the first diamond won the second and faced the crucial decision. Should he hope for a 3-3 break, or should he play West for a doubleton K-Q? Opting for the 3-3 break, South crossed to dummy in trumps and discarded his last diamond on the heart king. Then he ruffed a diamond to get the bad news. There was no discard on dummy's last diamond, and the doubled contract suffered one down. Had South played for a doubleton K-Q in diamonds, he would have survived. After winning the diamond queen with his ace, he leads the club king to West's ace, and West is stuck. South discards his losing diamond on dummy's heart king and still has two trumps in dummy to ruff his clubs. Why was West critical of East's final pass? It's a matter of basic arithmetic. If the pass "wins," East-West collects 200 points instead of 150 at a club partial. If the pass loses, East-West pays off a monstrous 730 points. Even if four clubs goes down, the odds heavily favor a takeout to four clubs.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ Q J 9 6	♠ 2	♠ A 5	♠ 2
♥ K 7 5 3	♥ J 10 6	♥ A Q 8 2	♥ J 10 6
♦ 6 5 4	♦ J 9 7 2	♦ K Q	♦ J 9 7 2
♣ 3	♣ J 9 8 6 4	♣ A Q 10 7	♣ J 9 8 6 4

Vulnerable North-South Dealer: North

The bidding

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	2♣	Dbl
3♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
*weak two-bid			

Opening lead Spade ace

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0512

ACROSS

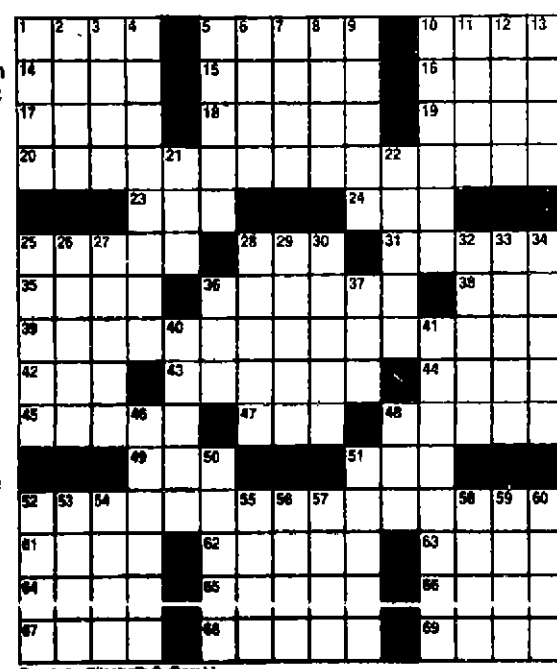
- 1 "Candida" playwright
5 Songs like Torné
10 Extensive
14 Entre: Prefix
15 "La Campagne de Rome" artist
16 Aware of
17 Utah city
18 Stop on (half abruptly)
19 They can be Horatian
20 Slot machines
23 40 winks
24 Scooby— (cartoon dog)
25 Authorized
26 Carrier to Oslo
28 Cavaradossi's love, in opera
35 Sale items, for short
36 I.R.S. visits
38 Globe
39 Chris Evert specialty
42 — Bravo
43 They're in a stable environment
44 Baseball's Mel and others
46 The blabs
47 Born
48 Wall climbers
49 Org. that called 60's strikes
51 Niger-to-Libya dir.
52 Picnic event
53 Works in the garden
54 Race tracks
63 Wall Street optimist
64 Language written in Persian-Arabic letters
65 Engendered
66 Pitcher Hershiser
67 ["You don't mean..."]
68 Generous helpings
69 Orangeish vegetables

DOWN

- 1 "Begone!"
2 Honker
3 Toward one side of a ship
4 Effeminate
5 Little rascal
6 Secret language
7 Sanaran
8 Taj Mahal, e.g.
9 Lieu
10 Kind of doll
11 "The King"
12 Copy editor's marking
13 Chuck
21 One who blabs
22 "fast!" ("Hey!")
23 Link of netrol
26 Professor Corey
27 Sing softly
28 Khartoum's land
29 Fred's light-footed sister
30 Move laterally

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SLOT PRAM SCALP
LIVE RARE TABOO
AMEN ASIS OBESE
VERONICA SCLOSET
ROSA LIT
NAW RELATED LAP
OPART NRA DECA
MARTHAS VINEYARD
DES COLLARD ESE
RAF ROOT
CHRISTINA SWORLD
ROAST DEET TOUR
ANGEL BRUE ALVA
GEESSE SOAR LEST



- 32 Conductor who studied under Bartók
33 Big olive oil exporter
34 Great depression
35 Farm worker?
37 Boob tubes
38 Homes on high
39 Hoodlum
40 Wedding dance
41 Scarlet and crimson
42 Stuntmeister Knievel
43 Additions
44 Baby talk
45 Goo unit
46 New Ageish glow
47 Skelton's Kaddishopper
48 Additions

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone. 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-800-7-ACROSS.